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A feature always prominent in the small books of this collection is that, while the treatment is concise, adequate expression seldom fails to be given to every essential. The Germans are fortunate to have at their hand scientific compendiums so admirable and costing so little.

Geographische Studien. Von Prof. Dr. S. Günther. 172 pp.
Strecker & Schröder, Stuttgart, 1907. (Price, M. 4.)

This well-known physical geographer treats first of geographical acoustic problems, such as Tönende Sand (sounding sands in the Hawaiian Islands and elsewhere), Musikalische Naturklänge (natural musical sounds, as singing valleys in the Alps), and Abrupte Knalle (sudden reports), as the Barisal Guns of the Ganges delta. The author gives his views of these sounds and their genesis. His other chapters deal with the Antarctic problem, the history of the investigation of earthquakes, and memorial papers on Eduard Richter and Ferdinand von Richthofen.

Australasia. Vol. II. Malaysia and the Pacific Archipelagoes.
By F. H. H. Guillemard. xvi and 574 pp., 47 Illustrations, 16 Maps, and Index. Stanford's Compendium of Geography and Travel (New Issue). Edward Stanford, London, 1908. (Price, 15s.)

In the fourteen years since the first issue of this work, geographical exploration has made much progress, especially in the large islands of New Guinea, Borneo, and Celebes. The new edition is, therefore, timely, for it brings geographical discoveries and surveys of ocean depths down to date and also records many political changes that have taken place in recent years in the vast regions of Oceania.

It is observed that in the new map of New Guinea "Snow Mountains" are marked along the eastern extension of the Charles Louis Mountains, the portion of this great chain where much exploratory work has recently been done. Dr. A. H. Keane, who has revised this edition, calls special attention to the fact that the joint labours of Dutch, German, and British explorers and officials have shown that the Charles Louis, Bismarck, Albert Victor, and Owen Stanley Mountains "form a continuous, lofty and in part snowy range which traverses the whole island from west to east and in many of its sections maintains great altitudes of from 12,000 to 16,000 feet." Kersting, Lauterbach, MacGregor, Knutsford and others have contributed to this discovery that a central backbone of mountains extends clear across the island.

Further particulars are given in the chapter on New Guinea where it is said that the eastward extension of the Charles Louis Mountains contains the loftiest known peaks in the whole area between the Himalayas and the Andes; also that the eastern continuation of this central system through German and British New Guinea has been clearly established by Lauterbach and Kersting, who, striking inland from Astrolabe Bay on the east coast, sighted many forest-clad ridges rising one behind the other, the vision being bounded north and west by a lofty range apparently from 13,000 to 16,000 feet high.

Dr. Guillemard, well known as an authority on Oceania, has made this reading and reference book entirely worthy of the high reputation of the volumes in "Stanford's Compendium of Geography and Travel." It is likely for years to be the fullest record in one volume of our knowledge of this part of the world.